

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer io

Charlotte, North Carolina

July 12, 1974

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ZDRAVKO TELALBASIC INTERNAL SECURITY - YUGOSLAVIA

BRANISLAV NOVAKOVIC INTERNAL SECURITY - YUCOSLAVIA

NO 30 resides at 11 On July 1, 1974, JAMES M. GRAY, who resides at 11 Olney Road, Asheville, North Carolina, said that for the past eighteen months he has been employed as Managing Editor of "The Labor Advocate," which newspaper is a monthly publication published from the offices of Allied Printing Company, 428 Haywood Road, Asheville, North Carolina.

GRAY said that prior to his accepting his present position, he had been a newscaster and broadcaster for several radio stations, the last being Radio Station WISE, Asheville, North Carolina. He said that from 1950 through 1959, he served in the Air Force in Air Force Intelligence and in 1957, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force assigned to Air Force Intelligence. He said that as a newly commissioned Second Lieutenant, he was sent to an air navigation school at the United States Air Force Base,
Harlingen, Texas, in 1957, and it was while there he met
DBOGDAN KONSTANTINE ZECEVIC, who was a Captain in the Yugoslav
Air Force. He said that ZECEVIC was his roommate for approximately one year while attending this course at Harlingen, Texas, and since he, GRAY, speaks Russian fluently he was assigned to ZECEVIC to serve as a language barrier between ZECEVIC and the other students attending this course.

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GRAY said that ZECEVIC was in his opinion a 'hard core" Communist and that they became involved in many interesting discussions having to do with communism versus capitalism. / He_said that one of the individuals discussed was ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC, who is a 74 year old Yugoslav now living in Surfside, California, and who had been, prior to his escape into the United States, described as "the most illegal of illegals" in a Reader's Digest article, which appeared in December, 1973. He said that ARTUKOVIC is a noted war criminal as he ad been the Minister of Justice in Nazi controlled puppet state of Croatia during World War II, and that he, GRAY, because of his interest in the labor movement and also because of his interest in war criminals taking refuge in the United States, became interested in taking some action with appropriate Government officials to remove war criminals from this country if they are guilty and if there is no evidence as to their guilt, that the matter be forgotten. He stated he is interested in the Amvet Movement and that he had prepared a resolution for the Amvets. North Carolina Department, when they assembled for their annual convention in Lexington, North Carolina, on June 3, He stated that this resolution was "Resolution on U. S. Sanctuary for Accused War Criminals from World War II." stated that one of the war criminals whom he specifically had in mind was ANDRE ARTUKOVIC, previously described, living at Surfside, California.

ARTUKOVIC was responsible for the cruel deaths of many individuals in Croatia prior to his leaving that country and slipping into Switzerland, later into Ireland, and then into the United States. He said that in addition to his interest as a writer for "The Labor Advocate," he is also a free lance writer and hopes eventually to have a story published concerning ANDRE ARTUKOVIC.

He said that in order to obtain some information, having been spurred on by his conversations with BOGDAN KONSTANTINE ZECEVIC, whom he had been with for a year at the United States Air Force Base. Harlingen, Texas, and by the article which appeared in the Reader's Digest magazine in December, 1973, he telephonically contacted ZDRANKA TELALBASIC, Second Secretary for Press, Culture and Information, in the Yugoslavic Embassy, Washington, D. C., for information

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concerning the possible whereabouts of ANDRE ARTUKOVIC. He said that this inquiry resulted in his receiving a letter from the Second Secretary TELALBASIC, which was a favorable letter indicating that the Embassy was also interested in having ARTUKOVIC removed from this country as a war criminal to stand trial. He said that he was then referred to Dr. MILAN BULAJIC, Consul General, Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in New York City, and has received an invitation from Dr. BULAJIC to come to New York City and meet with him so this matter can be discussed on a person to person basis with expenses paid.

GRAY stated in the event he receives an expense paid trip, he will meet with Dr. BULAJIC in New York City with the expressed purpose of attempting to obtain enough interest to have ANDRE ARTUKOVIC and several other individuals removed to stand trial as war criminals or else bring them to a hearing and determine whether or not there is sufficient evidence for trial. If there is not sufficient evidence, then the matter should be dropped as he has presented in his resolution to the North Carolina Chapter of Amvets.

GRAY concluded by saying that the only individuals named above whom he has personally met is the Yugoslav Air Force Captain BOGDAN KONSTANTINE ZECEVIC. He said that he does not personally know of any of the other individuals named, but has contacted them either telephonically or in writing concerning his concern for the removal of alleged war criminals from this country, who are taking refuge in the United States.

GRAY said that another article, which motivated him in this action, was an article entitled "Probe 33 in U. S. for Nazi War Crimes," which article was published in the New York Post on April 26, 1974. He stated this was a feature article concerning 33 individuals accused of Nazi war crimes which were being investigated by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service.

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